## Supplementary File 1: Results of the search strategy for electronic databases and grey literature

Date of	Electronic	Keywords/MeSH terms
search	Database	
14-06- 2021	Web of Science	Human papillomavirus*" OR alphapapillomavirus OR hpv OR papillomavirus* OR "Cervical cancer*" OR "Uterine Cervical Neoplasm*" OR "cancer of the cervix" OR "uterine cervix tumor" AND "self-sampling" OR "self sampl*" OR "self collect*" OR "self screen*" OR screening AND Africa OR "sub-Saharan Africa" OR "Africa South of the Sahara" AND female OR woman OR women NOT algeria OR egypt OR libya OR morocco OR tunisia
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06-07- 2021	PubMed	((("Uterine Cervical Neoplasms"[Mesh] OR "Uterine Cervical Neoplasm*"[tw] OR "Cervical Cancer"[tw] AND (female[Filter])) OR ("Alphapapillomavirus"[Mesh] OR Alphapapillomavirus[tw] OR "Human papillomavirus*"[tw] OR HPV[tw] OR papillomavirus*[tw] AND (female[Filter]))) AND ("Self Administration"[Mesh] OR self- sampl*[tw] OR "self collect*"[tw] OR "self Administ*"[tw] OR "self screen*"[tw] AND (female[Filter]))) AND ("Africa South of the Sahara"[Mesh] OR "Africa Sub-Saharan"[tw] OR "Subsaharan Africa"[tw] OR "Sub-Sahara africa"[tw] AND (female[Filter])) Filters: in the last 10 years, Female
06-07-	Scopus	(TITLE-ABS-KEY(Africa* OR "sub-Saharan Africa" OR SS OR "Africa South of the Sahara"
2021	Scopus	OR  "Subsahara* Africa") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY("Human papillomavirus*" OR alphapapillomavirus OR hpv OR papillomavirus* OR "Cervical cancer*" OR "Uterine Cervical Neoplasm*" OR "cancer of the cervix" OR "uterine cervix tumor") AND TITLE-ABS-KEY("self-sampling" OR "self sampl*" OR "self collect*" OR "self screen*" OR screening) AND NOT TITLE-ABS-KEY(Algeria OR Egypt OR Libya OR Morocco OR Tunisia)) AND (LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2021) OR LIMIT-TO ( PUBYEAR,2020) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2019) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2018) OR LIMIT- TO ( PUBYEAR,2017) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2016) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2015) OR LIMIT- TO ( PUBYEAR,2014) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2013) OR LIMIT-TO (PUBYEAR,2012) OR LIMIT- TO ( PUBYEAR,2014) OR LIMIT-TO (SRCTYPE,"j"))
12-07-	Ovid Medline	Ovid MEDLINE(R) <1996 to August Week 3 2021>
2021		
		1 exp Uterine Cervical Neoplasms / 48683
		2 Uterine Cervical Neoplasms.af. 48719 3 Cervical Cancer.af. 37377
		4 exp Alphapapillomavirus/ 8338
		5 Alphapapillomavirus.af. 2733
		6 exp Papillomavirus Infections/ 31367
		7 Papillomavirus Infection*.af. 28075

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		8 Human papillomavirus*.af. 33426 9 HPV.af. 35627
		10 papillomavirus*.af. 42280
		11 Cervi* Cancer.af. 38169
		12 1 or 2 or 3 or 4 or 5 or 6 or 7 or 8 or 9 or 10 or 11 86646
		13 exp Self Administration/ 8841
		14 Self Administration.af. 11764
		15 self-sampl*.af. 682
		16 self collect*.af. 1155
		17 self administrat*.af. 12471
		18 self screen*.af. 205
		19 self-testing.af. 1129
		20 self-test*.af. 1491
		21 13 or 14 or 15 or 16 or 17 or 18 or 19 or 20 15594
		22 exp "Africa South of the Sahara"/ 168852
		23 sub-sahara* Africa.af. 19913
		24 22 or 23 173452
		25 12 and 21 and 24 101
		26 limit 25 to yr="2011 -Current" 95
		27 limit 26 to (female and humans) 95
14-07-	Cochrane	
2021		
		ID Search Hits
		#1 MeSH descriptor: [Alphapapillomavirus] explode all trees 247
		#2 MeSH descriptor: [Uterine Cervical Neoplasms] explode all trees 2171
		#3 ("Uterine Cervical Neoplasm*" OR "Cervical Cancer" OR Alphapapillomavirus OR
		"Human papillomavirus*" OR HPV OR papillomavirus*) (Word variations have been
		searched) 7022
		#4 #1 OR #2 OR #3 6989
		#5 MeSH descriptor: [Self Administration] explode all trees 778
		#6 (self-sampl* OR "self collect*" OR "self Administ*" OR "self screen*") (Word
		variations have been searched) 6495
		#7 #5 OR #6 1040
		#8 MeSH descriptor: [Africa South of the Sahara] explode all trees 6811
		#9 ("sub-Saharan Africa") (Word variations have been searched) 2037
		#10 #8 OR #9 8279
		#11 #4 AND #7 AND #10 8
		Date range 2011-2021 Results 7
31-08-	Grey	"Human papillomavirus" OR "cervical cancer" AND "self-sampling" AND "sub-Saharan
21	Literature	Africa"
	identified	
	through	
	other sources	